

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 NRC-05

TRSE-00 ERDA-05 COME-00 ACDA-07 MC-02 IGA-02 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /078 W
----- 053672

O P 100733Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6148

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 4225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, SN

SUBJECT: JUSTIFICATION FOR SALE OF F-5E'S

REF: STATE 223525

1. ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT LANGUAGE PROPOSED REFTEL MAY HAVE BEEN USED PREVIOUSLY BY DOD TO JUSTIFY ARMS SALES TO SINGAPORE, WE THINK FIFTH SENTENCE OF PROPOSED STATEMENT IMPLIES MORE CLEARLY THAN IS THE CASE THAT SALE OF ARMS IS DIRECT QUID PRO QUO FOR RETAINING ACCESS TO NAVAL AND AIR FACILITIES. WE THINK GOS WOULD FIND IT MORE ACCEPTABLE IF U.S. DECISION TO SELL ARMS TO SINGAPORE AND GOS WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW US ACCESS TO NAVAL AND AIR FACILITIES ARE PUBLICITY JUSTIFIED IN TERMS OF OUR OVER-ALL COOPERATION BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. WE ALSO SUGGEST DELETION OF WORD "NEW" IN LAST SENTENCE ON GROUNDS THAT IT IS PERHAPS TOO OBVIOUSLY POINTED AT VIETNAM.

2. FOLLOWING IS RECOMMENDED REVISED TEXT: QUOTE WE BELIEVE THAT THE SALE TO SINGAPORE OF ONE SQUADRON OF F-5E'S WITH AIR TO AIR MISSILES IS THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES. THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED WITH NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE POWER EQUATION IN THE REGION. IN ADDITION, THE SINGAPORE DECISION
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TO PURCHASE THE PLANES MAY WELL PROMOTE COMMONALITY OF AIRCRAFT

AMONG THE FRIENDLY NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, PARTICULARLY BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND NEIGHBORING MALAYSIA AND THAILAND, WHICH ALREADY POSSESS THE AIRCRAFT.

3. SINGAPORE'S DECISION TO ACQUIRE A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FROM THE UNITED STATES IS CONSONANT WITH OUR OVER-ALL CORDIAL BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. SINGAPORE IS NOT ONLY A MAJOR TRADING AND INVESTMENT PARTNER OF THE U.S., IT ALSO GRANTS US ACCESS TO ITS EXCELLENT NAVAL AND AIR FACILITIES. THE PROPOSED DEAL WILL ALSO SERVE TO HELP A SMALL NATION, WHICH THREATENS NO ONE, TO IMPROVE ITS MODEST ARMED FORCES TO A LEVEL IT CONSIDERS ADEQUATE IN THE SITUATION THAT PREVAILS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Film Number: D760342-0020
From: SINGAPORE
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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